

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus for processing data for respective pages, comprising:

a data reception unit for receiving data of a first encoding format for respective pages;

~~a data generation unit for generating data of a second format from the data of the first format;~~

a control unit for generating a single page data management record that manages the data of the first ~~and second formats~~ encoding format in association with ~~each other~~ first encoding information indicating the first encoding format; ~~[[and]]~~

a plurality of output processors, each for independently executing a respective output process for ~~[[the]]~~ data of a predetermined encoding format, and the first format or the data of the second format

a data generation unit for generating data of a second encoding format from the data of the first encoding format, wherein the second encoding format is an encoding format used by one of the plurality of output processors,

wherein, upon generation of the data of the second encoding format, said control unit causes said page data management record to manage the data of the second encoding format in association with second encoding information indicating the second

encoding format in a manner such that the second encoding information is associated with the first encoding information, and

wherein said control unit deletes said page data management record if none of said plurality of output processors refers to said page data management record.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit generates said page data management record in a memory in response to reception of the data of the first encoding format for respective pages.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit monitors storage states of the data of the first and second encoding formats in a memory, and deletes the data of the first encoding format or the data of the second encoding format in accordance with the storage states and a reference state by the plurality of output processors.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when an output processor issues an instruction of an output process after the data of the first encoding format is deleted, said control unit controls said data generation unit to generate data in an output encoding format suited to the output process from the data of the second encoding format.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said control unit causes said page data management record to manage the data of the output encoding format in association with the data of the second encoding format.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein upon completion of use of the data of the output encoding format by the output processor, said control unit releases information of the data of the output encoding format from said page data management record.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when said control unit determines that storage of the data of the first encoding format in the memory is complete, said control unit permits said data generation unit to start a data generation operation of the data of the second encoding format from the data of the first encoding format.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said control unit monitors completion of the generation operation of said data generation unit and a storage state of the data of the second encoding format in the memory, and permits a predetermined process for the data of the second encoding format to execute in accordance with the storage state.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a separate page data management record is generated for data of each page received by said data reception unit, and when data including a plurality of pages are received, said control unit causes the plurality of said page data management records to manage the data of the first and second encoding formats of each page while associating respective pages with each other.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first encoding format is one of a plurality of data formats including raw data, JBIG data, JPEG data, TIFF data, and TEXT data, and wherein data of the second encoding format has a JBIG data format.

12. (Currently Amended) A data processing method for processing data for respective pages, comprising:

a data reception step of receiving data of a first encoding format for respective pages;

a data generation step in a data generation unit of generating data of a second format from the data of the first format;

a control step in a control unit of generating a page data management record that manages the data of the first and second formats encoding format in association with each other first encoding information indicating the first encoding format; [[and]]

an output process step of executing an output process with one or more of a plurality of output processors, each for independently executing a respective output process

for [[the]] data of a predetermined encoding the first format or the data of the second format and

a data generation step of generating data of a second encoding format from the data of the first encoding format, wherein the second encoding format is an encoding format used by one of the plurality of output processors,

wherein, upon generation of the data of the second encoding format, said control step causes said page data management record to manage the data of the second encoding format in association with second encoding information indicating the second encoding format in a manner such that the second encoding information is associated with the first encoding information, and

wherein the control step deletes the page data management record if none of said plurality of output processors refers to said page data management record.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the control step generates the page data management record in a memory in response to reception of the data of the first encoding format for respective pages.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the control step monitors storage states of the data of the first and second encoding formats in a memory, and deletes the data of the first encoding format or the data of the second encoding format in accordance with the storage states and a reference state by the plurality of output processors.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein when an output processor issues an instruction of an output process after the data of the first encoding format is deleted, the control step controls the data generation unit to generate data in an output encoding format suited to the output process from the data of the second encoding format.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the control step causes the page data management record to manage the data of the output encoding format in association with the data of the second encoding format.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein when use of the data of the output encoding format by the output processor is complete, the control step releases information of the data of the output encoding format from said page data management record.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein a separate page data management record is generated for data of each page received by said data reception unit, and when data including a plurality of pages are received, said control step causes the plurality of the page data management records to manage the data of the first and second encoding formats of each page while associating respective pages with each other.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the first encoding format is one of a plurality of data encoding formats including raw data, JBIG data, JPEG data, TIFF data, and TEXT data, and the data of the second encoding format has a JBIG data format.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable computer program for making a computer execute the data processing method of claim 12.

22. to 24. (Canceled)